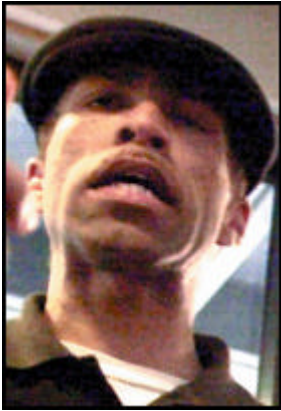


KnoxNews



Redd

Activist Redd nabbed in Mich.

Fugitive arrested, then hospitalized after jumping from third-floor window

By RANDY KENNER, kenner@knews.com
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Perry Redd's run from a Knoxville halfway house and federal gun and drug charges ended with a leap from a third-floor window in a Detroit suburb Wednesday morning.

Redd, a community activist and Knoxville Police Department critic, was arrested around 7 a.m. after landing outside the Whitehall Apartments in Southfield, Mich.

That's where members of the Smoky Mountain Fugitive Task Force tracked him after Redd disappeared from Knoxville July 14.

"Task Force members had been looking for him in the Detroit area for about a week," Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal Warren Mays said Wednesday in Knoxville.

Redd was taken to a local hospital where he was being treated for injuries suffered in his jump. He will be held in federal custody in Detroit after he is released from the hospital.

Mays said a report indicated that Redd possibly had broken a wrist and fractured a rib.

According to Mays and a press release from the U.S. Marshals Service, deputies from the marshal's service offices here and in Detroit, a KPD officer and officers with the Southfield Police Department went to the location where Redd was.

They knocked on the door and announced who they were before Redd leaped from the window and was subsequently captured outside.

Redd, 39, will face identity and possibly detention hearings in Detroit before being returned to Knoxville.

He had been scheduled for trial in federal court here in Knoxville for gun and drug charges on Aug. 18.

A convicted felon, he was arrested after a KPD officer allegedly found the weapon and cocaine on him Feb. 14 in Walter P. Taylor Homes project.

But it was unclear if Redd would ever go to trial after U.S. Magistrate Clifford Shirley agreed with a motion filed by Redd's lawyer, Assistant Federal Community Defender Kim Tollison, and ruled that the search was flawed.

Shirley suppressed both the weapon and the cocaine, meaning, if the ruling holds up, there would essentially be no case against Redd.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracee Plowell appealed the decision and U.S. District Judge James Jarvis was considering the matter when Redd - who was being held at the Midway Sanctions Center in Knoxville - tested positive for cocaine on July 13, according to a federal probation officer.

Redd disappeared the following day.

Jarvis has not ruled yet on the search issue.

Since he left, Redd has apparently sent at least three e-mails to a local Internet group and a fourth one to a News Sentinel reporter.

The writer of the e-mails indicates that he is Redd and knows details about Redd and the case that only a few people would know.

He indicated that he was searching for a better attorney - despite Tollison's success so far in representing him - and described himself as "fleeing from injustice."

The writer indicated that he sent one of the e-mails last week from a public library branch in Knoxville and indicated previously that he was in Knoxville.

"Nothing I have seen would indicate that," Mays said.

Redd also wrote in an e-mail, "Also for the record. I want you all to know that I will surrender to authorities when the time is right for ME! I have no one helping or 'harboring' me."

Mays said Wednesday that an adult female and a juvenile were present with Redd.

The Smoky Mountain Fugitive Task Force was created in the spring and includes the marshal's service, the KPD, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Knox County Sheriff's Office.

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